

*An Extract*

*Of a Letter written by Signor Cassini Professor of Astronomy in Bononia; to Monsieur Petit at Paris, and Englished out of the Journal Des Scavans; concerning several Spots lately discover'd there in the Planet Venus.*

**T**O give you some account of my present Studies, I shall acquaint you, that having been a good while very assiduous and careful in making Observations of *Venus*, to see, whether that Planet did not turn about its Axis, by a motion like to that of *Jupiter* and *Mars*; I met at first with many difficulties, but at last considering, that I should succeed better in my Observations at a time when *Venus* is at a good distance from the *Earth*, than when she is near thereto, I attentively observ'd, when she was risen somewhat high above the *Horizon*, and shin'd brighter, whether I could not discern in her some part remarkable either by its brightness or obscurity, among the rest, especially about the middle of her Disk. And this I did not in vain; for I discover'd at last towards the middle of her Body a part clearer than the rest, by which one might judge of the Motion or the Rest of this Planet.

The first time I saw it, was *October 14. 1666. h. 5. 45'. p. m.* and then this bright part was very near the Center, on the *North* side. And at the same time I observed *Westward* two obscure spots, somewhat oblong; but I could not then see that resplendent part long enough to conclude any thing from thence, nor was I able to see any thing well of those parts till *April 28. 1667.* on which day, a quarter of an hour before Sun-rising, I saw again a *bright* part, situated near the *Section*, and distant from the *Southern Horn* a little more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of its Diameter. And near the *Eastern Ring* I saw a dark and somewhat oblong spot, which was nearer to the *Northern* than the *Southern Horn*. At the rising of the Sun I perceived, that this *bright* part was then no more so near the *Southern Horn*, but distant from it  $\frac{1}{3}$  of its Diameter. This gave me great satisfaction. But

I was surpris'd at the same time to find, that the same Motion, which was made from *South* to *North* in the inferiour part of the Disk, was on the contrary made from *North* to *South* in the superiour part; whence the determination of the Motion may be better taken: For we have no Example of the like motion, except it be in that of the *Libration* of the Moon.

The next day, at the rising of the Sun, the said *bright* part was not far from the *Section*, and distant from the *Southern Horn*  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the Diameter. When the Sun was 4 degrees high, the same was scituated near the *Section*, and remote from the *Southern Horn*  $\frac{2}{5}$  of the Diameter. The Sun being high 6 deg. 10 min. it seem'd to have been pass'd the Center, and that the *Section* of the Disk did cut the same. The Sun being 7 deg. high, it appeared yet more advanced Northward, together with two *obscure* Spots seated between the *Section* and the *Circumference*, and equally distant from one another, and from each Horn on both sides. And the Sky being very clear, I observ'd the motion of the *bright* part for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hour, which then seem'd to be exactly made from *South* to *North*, without any sensible inclination *Eastward* or *Westward*. Mean-time I perceiv'd in the motion of the *dark* Spots so great a Variation, that it cannot be adscribed to any reason in *Opticks*.

May 10. and 13. before Sun-rising, I saw still the *bright* part near the Center Northward.

Lastly, June 5. and 6. before the rising of the Sun, I saw the same between the *Northern Horn* and the Center of this Planet, and I noted the same irregular Variation in the *obscure* Spots. But when *Venus* began to be further removed from the Earth, it was more difficult to observe these *Phænomena*.

I shall not presume to declare my sentiment touching these Apparences so boldly, as I did concerning the Spots formerly discover'd in *Jupiter* and *Mars*. For those Spots I could very well observe for a whole night together, during the opposition of those Planets to the Sun: I could consider their Motion for the space of several hours; and at last, seeing them return regularly to the same place, I could judge whether they were the same spots or not, and in how much time they

they absolv'd their Relation. But it was not so here with the Apparences in *Venus*; for one sees them but for so small a time, that it is far more difficult, *certainly* to know, when they return to the same place.

Yet this I can say, (supposing that this *bright* part of *Venus*, which I have observ'd, especially this year 1667, hath always been the same) that in less than one day it absolves its motion, whether of *Revolution* or *Libration*, so as in near 23 hours it returns about the same hour to the same scituation in this Planet; which yet happens not without some irregularity. Now to affirm, (supposing it to be always the *same* bright part) whether this Motion is made by an entire *Revolution*, or by a *Libration*, I dare not yet do, in regard I could not see the Continuity of the Motion through a *great* part of the Arch, as I did in the other Planets: And for this very reason, *that* will always be difficult to determine.

### *An Extract*

*Of a Letter, written by J. DENIS, Doctor of Physick, and Professor of Philosophy and the Mathematicks at Paris, touching a late Cure of an Inveterate Phrensy by the Transfusion of Blood.*

*This Letter was lately sent by the Author himself to the Publisher, as it was printed at Paris in French; the substance whereof is in English, as follows.*

**I**T is now almost a twelve-month that I declared my self publickly in this matter of *Transfusion*, and after I had grounded my Conjectures upon divers reasons, and a number of Experiments which I made joynly with M. *Emmerez*, I resolv'd to expect in the sequel a further confirmation, by carefully observing all that should happen in the several Trials I intended to practice.

In this resolution, we have since let slip no occasion to improve this Operation, which hath been follow'd with good success, and I could here alledge some particular Relations, the circumstances of which would appear curious enough, if I did  
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